

Message

From: McGaraughty, Maeghan [/O=OCRPS/OU=EXTERNAL
(FYDIBOHF25SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=227637E1CDE94BE699FB3CACCF3E6]
Sent: 1/28/2022 2:52:40 PM
To: Steinbachs, John [steinbachsj@ottawapolice.ca]
CC: Kavanagh, Julie A [kavanaghj@ottawapolice.ca]
Subject: Media Briefing: Social Media Messages

Unclassified

Hi John,

As requested, here are the messages I pulled from the Chief and Trish's respective speeches. If you're comfortable with the content, I'll pass it along to Bryan for the highlight video.

Maeghan

Media Briefing Comms

Speaker	EN Post	FR post
N/A - Intro	A media update regarding this weekend's demonstrations: [link to YouTube]	
Chief	As you all know, there is a major demonstration taking place over the next several days here in the Nation's capital. In fact, demonstrators have already arrived, and we have already started to manage a series of pop-up demonstrators in the core over the last 24 hours. There have been many concerns expressed in the community and many questions have been raised about what we can expect.	
Chief	Here is what we do know so far about the core Freedom Convoy demonstration organizers. They have advised us that this will be a peaceful demonstration. They have confirmed that there will be a large number of trucks and participants and the main planned demonstrations will take place on Saturday and Sunday. (Two posts)	
Chief	With demonstrations of this scale, there are significant risks to be mitigated but that we cannot eliminate. For instance, we have a major traffic plan to ensure that emergency lanes are kept open, but with thousands of trucks demonstrating in the downtown core for days, we know that there will be major traffic safety issues. (Two posts)	
Chief	Starting today and increasing over the weekend, Ottawa residents and visitors can expect to see a large police and emergency services presence in the downtown core and on major highways and roads. As the demonstrators arrive in larger numbers today, major traffic delays and congestion will occur. Over the course of the weekend, there will be gridlock in the core, and it will impact road usage on a large scale city-wide. We will do everything possible to maintain emergency routes in the core, but we ask everyone NOT to visit or travel in the downtown core if you don't need to. (Multiple posts)	
Chief	The OPS and our partners will do our very best to keep all people healthy and safe. That said, we have a collective responsibility to keep the community healthy and safe. We have to work together to enable everyone - demonstrators, visitors and residents - to get home safely to their families and loved ones. *Would need to be two posts)	

We remain in regular contact with the convoy organizers to understand their plan and to ensure they have information relative to safe driving routes and appropriate locations to park in the city. We want to ensure demonstrators can arrive and leave as efficiently and safely as possible.

Trish The truck convoy will be directed to these specific areas as they arrive in Ottawa. City staff have been making sure appropriate signage is clearly visible including no-stopping or prohibited parking zones.

We have identified and will maintain open lanes of traffic for our first responders in emergencies throughout the course of the demonstrations.

Our officers are here to protect the rights of individuals to demonstrate peacefully and in accordance with the law. We are also entrusted to intervene when violence and laws are broken and to restore peace. Our focus will be to preserve the safety of everyone involved; this includes Ottawa residents, demonstrators and police members.

Trish Residents, visitors and demonstrators will see a very large police presence over the weekend. We will have officers on foot, in plain clothes and using a variety of methods to conduct evidence gathering and observation of crowds. Demonstrators and residents can expect to see our members in different uniforms, with a variety of equipment on their person and in different vehicles.

To our fellow citizens of Ottawa, we appreciate that area businesses and residents are concerned, particularly about information they are seeing online. We want to assure them we are taking every action possible to mitigate the impacts of this event on daily life in the city.

Even with those efforts, this will have a significant impact on traffic. The stated goal of demonstrators is to disrupt traffic to bring attention to their cause.

It is simple. If you don't need be downtown this weekend, avoid the area.

Trish For those of you who live downtown, expect delays and major traffic disruptions.

Make adjustments to schedules whether it be for groceries, shopping, work, medical appointments or deliveries.

It will be more difficult to move around, especially by vehicle.

We will work to keep you updated.

We ask that you rely on trusted sources like our Twitter feed (@OttawaPolice) as well as the City of Ottawa's feed @Ottawa_Traffic.